IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA CHARLOTTE DIVISION

Case No. 3:20-cv-00232

DAVID BENHAM; CITIES4LIFE; GLOBAL IMPACT MINISTRIES d/b/a LOVE LIFE; and LOVE LIFE CHARLOTTE,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CITY OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA; and MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA,

Defendants.

DEFENDANT MECKLENBURG COUNTY'S MOTION TO DISMISS

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 7.1 and Rules 12(b)(1) and 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Defendant Mecklenburg County moves to dismiss the Complaint because (1) Plaintiffs' claims are moot and there is no active case or controversy due to the repeal of the challenged Joint Proclamation; (2) the Court should abstain from exercising jurisdiction under *Younger v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37 (1971) because resolving this civil action would interfere with ongoing state criminal proceedings; and (3) Plaintiffs fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted because the Joint Proclamation—as written and as applied—did not violate their constitutional rights. In further support of this motion, Mecklenburg County relies on its accompanying Memorandum in Support of this Motion to Dismiss, which it incorporates by reference.

WHEREFORE, Mecklenburg County respectfully requests that the Court grant its motion to dismiss and dismiss the Complaint with prejudice.

WOMBLE BOND DICKINSON (US) LLP

/s/ W. Clark Goodman

Michael Barnhill (N.C. Bar No. 9690) W. Clark Goodman (N.C. Bar No. 15533) Matthew F. Tilley (N.C. Bar No. 40125) Patrick G. Spaugh (N.C. Bar No. 49532) 301 South College Street, Suite 3500 Charlotte, North Carolina 28202 Telephone: (704) 331-4900

Email: mike.barnhill@wbd-us.com Email: clark.goodman@wbd-us.com Email: matthew.tilley@wbd-us.com Email: patrick.spaugh@wbd-us.com

Attorneys for Mecklenburg County